sessions of the Assembly on the subject. The matter was being considered by the Head Sirkar Vakil for the past four or five years. Orders should be passed soon.

DEWAN'S REPLY: முதலாவதாக நாடார் சமுதாயத்துக்குச்சரியான பிரதி நிதித்துவம் கிடைக்கவில்லை என்று நீங்கள் சொன்னீர்கள். இது உங்களுடைய சமுதாயத்திற்கு மாத்திரமுள்ள விஷயமல்ல. எல்லா சமுதாயத்துலும் முள்ள விஷயம் தான். இப்போது கவர்மெண்டிலிருந்து ஒரு கம்மிட்டி எற்படுத்தப்போகிறார்கள். அதில் இதை யோசிப்பார்கள்.

அகஸ்தீஸ்வரத்தில் ஒரு பள்ளிக்கூடம் வேண்டுமென்பதைப்பற்றி சொன்னீர்கள். அதாவது, பர்மிஷன் (Permission) தந்தால், உங்களுக்கு ப்பள்ளிக்கூடம் கட்டிக்கொள்வதற்கா?

MEMBER: ஆம்.

DEWAN: அப்படி நீங்கள் ஒரு பள்ளிக்கூடம் கட்டிக் கொள்வதாயிருந்தால் அந்த அப்பேட்சையை டைரக்டருக்கு அனுப்பித்து வேண்டியது செய்கிறேன்.

ஈச்சாவிளையில் படித்துறை கட்டித்தர வேண்டுமென்ற விஷயதைப் பற்றி இன்னும் ரிப்போர்ட் தயாராக வில்லை. தயாரானவுடன் அதை இன்ஜினியருக்கு அனுப்பி அவருடைய அபிப்பிராயப் பிரகாரம் செய்யலாம்.

வடிவீசுவரம் பகுதியிலுள்ள குளத்தில் ஒரு ப்டித்துறை கட்டிதருவதைப்பற்றி அதற்கு ஸாங்ஷன் செய்து, வேண்டிய சௌகரியம் செய்யலாம்.

பாக்கி விஷயங்களை ஆலோஜிக்கலாம்.

[You first complained about the inadequate representation of the Nadar community in public service. This is the complaint of other communities as well. The Government propose to appoint a committee who will consider the question. You next spoke about the need for a school at Agastisvaram. The request for permission to establish a school at the place will be referred to the Director of Public Instruction. As regards the construction of bathing ghats at Eachanvilai, on receipt of the report on the subject the Chief Engineer will be consulted and the needful done. Sanction would be accorded for the construction of the bathing ghat in the tank in the Vadivisvaram pakuthi. The remaining points will be considered.]

167. Needs of the Tamilians.

MR. A. S. VEERABAHU PILLAI (*Municipal Council, Trivandrum*) spoke on the following needs of the Tamilians:—

Tamil schools should be opened in all Tamil centres. If the Government could not afford to start separate schools for teaching Tamil, Tamil divisions should be opened in all classes of the Malayalam schools situated in areas where there were children who desired to learn the Tamil language. There was a Tamil school at Chalai. Similar schools

should be opened in other important centres in the Trivandrum town namely, at Puthenchanthai, Thycaud, Fort and Kythamukku, where there were a large number of Tamilians who were anxious that their children should learn their mother-tongue. Departmental Tamil primary schools should be opened in those centres immediately. Similar schools should be opened at Quilon and Alleppey where there were large colonies of Tamil-speaking people.

Clients and Vakils in the Tamil areas experienced serious difficulties when the presiding officers of the courts in their localities were ignorant of Tamil. In British India, officers appointed in the several Districts were required to pass tests in at least two vernaculars of the Presidency before they could hope for promotion. That wholesome practice should be followed in Travancore as well.

Forms issued in the various departments of the State were printed only in Malayalam. Tamilians who were ignorant of Malayalam were also compelled to use those forms, to their great inconvenience. All such forms should be printed in Tamil also and distributed in Tamil taluks for the use of the Tamilians. Trade, industry and agriculture being the mainstay of the Tamilians, a journal dealing with those subjects would be of much use to them. It was rumoured that the Economic Development Board had recommended the publication of a Tamil edition of the Travancore Economic Journal. The recommendation should be sanctioned.

Facilities should be provided in the Arts College, Trivandrum, for teaching Tamil in Group VI of the B. A. Class. The recent order of the Government postponing consideration of the question should be reconsidered. In that College, Tamil composition and prose were being taught in the B. A. classes by the Lecturer in Malayalam. The Tamil Pandit in that College, who was a distinguished graduate in Tamil, was required to pass the Pandit examination of the Madura *Tamil Sangham* as a condition precedent to his confirmation. No other Tamil graduate had ever been required to pass that examination, which was conducted by a private body. Besides, the Pandit examination had been declared by the Travancore Education Code as being only equivalent to the Travancore Tamil Higher examination the chief examiners in which were only graduates. The abovesaid anomalies should be removed.

The pay and status of the Tamil Pandits employed in the Education Department should be enhanced in order to place them on the same footing as other teachers and professors.

The absence of Tamil scholars in the Text Book Committee led to the selection of very bad Tamil books. A separate Text Book Committee consisting of Tamil scholars should be formed for selecting text books in Tamil or a sufficient number of Tamil scholars should be appointed to the new Committee to be formed. The following gentle-

men might be appointed to the Committee, namely, Messers T. Lakshmanan Pillai, B. A., P. Chidambaram Pillai, B. A., B. L., S. Desivinayagom Pillai, T. Ramalingom Pillai, B. A., G. Panneerkaiperumal Mudaliar B. A. B. L., and Muthia Mudaliar B. A.

Speaking about the representation of Tamilians in public service, the member said that, excluding three or four officers in the higher ranks, there were not even a handful of Tamilian officers in the State. The number of appointments held by the Tamilians was extremely inadequate when compared to their numerical strength, education, status and position and evidenced the criminal apathy of Government in the matter. The community should be better represented in Government service. Legitimate claims of Tamilian officers were systematically overlooked in filling up vacancies in the higher ranks of the service. In the Secretariat, there was only a single Tamilian officer in the higher grade. When a vacancy in the Assistant Secretaries' grade arose, his claims were overlooked for no fault of his.

The Tamilians should be regarded as a separate entity in the matter of recruitment to public service. Qualified Tamilians should be appointed as Judges in the High Court. There were only two Tamilians in the Judicial Department. Duly qualified Tamilians should be appointed more liberally in the Judicial Department.

A Staff Selection Board should be constituted to safeguard the interests of minor communities.

Qualified Tamilian women should be appointed in public service for encouraging female education in the community. Tamilian women should also be nominated to popular institutions and local bodies.

The necessary legislation should be introduced for conferring equal rights on males and females to inherit the joint family property of the Tamilians following the Hindu Law and for recognising re-marriage of widows in the communities in which such re-marriages were not allowed by custom. Section 3 of the Nanjinad Vellala Regulation should be amended with a view to permit persons following that law to enter into marriage relations with communities with whom such marriages were allowed by custom, usage and court decisions.

DEWAN'S REPLY: I am in perfect sympathy with all that you said about the need for the encouragement of the Tamil language as much as I am in sympathy with the requests of any community to have its own mother tongue developed. The Government are doing what they can in helping the development of the Tamil language. There are many schools where Tamil also is taught and there are some Tamil schools that have been started not by the Government but by private agencies; and according to the present declared policy of the Government, they do not favour starting of schools by Government agency but are in favour of private agencies starting schools and then Government would render them help for the better conduct of the same. Some promise has been made to the representatives of the Tamil-knowing community or communities who in the past have

asked for help and in that connection I cannot avoid mentioning one name, and that is Mr. Ganapathi Pillai, whose premature death recently is one which the Tamil-speaking world cannot easily compensate. He started a Tamil School in Chalai and he had asked for some help for that school. Government have given some help and still have under consideration proposals for enhancing the award of grant to that institution.

As regards Government publications, as a rule proceedings which are passed by Government in English are translated in to Malayalam and Tamil. You mentioned one publication which is in Malayalam, a Tamil translation of which is not being published and that is the Economic Journal published under the auspices of the Economic Development Board. Government will consider your representation and pass orders.

Then there are two other matters about which I should say a word or two. One is legislation for altering the law of succession, inheritance and marriage now prevailing in the community. Your comparison of these Makkathayi communities and Marumakkathayi communities and the changes that are going to be effected in law, seems to be not very helpful. The question of changing the Hindu law and custom by legislation is one that is beset with complications and difficulties and as part of the Hindu law your law is also in the same position. The question of effecting legislative modification in the Hindu law is being taken up, elsewhere, but I do not think, anywhere, any change has been effected by legislation. That is a matter which requires serious consideration; and when the Government feel that the volume of public opinion is weighty enough to justify Government to take legislative action, Government will take up that question.

The other question that you raised on which I should like to say a word is communal representation—what you have called the criminal apathy of the Government towards members of your community who want to enter into public service. You have been attending to the proceedings of this Assembly for the last eight days and you have heard the cry of every community that it has not got representation in the public service. I wonder where all the Government appointments go. At the same time we have got several officers of each community in service. It seems to me that the common sin of all the representatives of the several communities is that they refuse to look at other communities which have also qualified men seeking for appointments. I hope that the work of the committee which the Government now propose to appoint will have the effect of making communities see themselves in proper perspective and of putting an end to the persistent cry for the representation of these communities in service. The committee would be constituted very soon and will go into the question.

You made certain other suggestions. They will also be considered.